

PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Zoom Meeting

Tuesday February 9, 2021 3:00pm – 4:30pm

1. Call to Order.

2. Roll Call

A. Voting Board Members –

Robert Putnam (Dist. 1)
Mary Rollins (Dist. 2)
John Dewhirst (Dist. 3)
Steve Yandl (Dist. 4) (Notes)
Bob McCarty (Dist. 5) (Chair)

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x
x

David Divoky (At Large)
Mike Farrell (At Large)
Darrell Olson (At Large)
John Tam (At Large)
Shawn Tobin (At Large)
John Ewald (Filling Vacancy)

x
x
x
x

B. Staff (Parks and other County Departments or agencies) – Sharon Swan (meeting host), Tom Teigen, Carol Ohlfs, Tammy Dunn (ex officio), Rose Intveld, Cabot Fuqua, Emily Griffith, Nathan Howard (Public Works), Thomas Hartzell.

C. Guests – Jacob Vail, Jamie Holland, Shannon Crawford, Eric Hughes, Anthony Hawley.

3. Review Minutes of January 2021. No changes needed and the minutes were unanimously approved.

4. Public Hearings/Meetings

A. Sharon Swan announced an advisory group meeting planned for February 24, regarding the shooting park.

B. There is an upcoming stakeholder meeting for the Slide Memorial project.

5. Oral Requests from the Audience/Correspondence

A. Jamie Holland and Shannon Crawford have an interest in the bmx track at McCollu.

B. Anthony Hawley and Eric Hughes have an interest in disk golf at Twin Rivers.

6. General Business

A. Park board member statuses.

(1) All positions with January 2021 expirations have been reappointed for their next term.

(2) Sharon reported that Jacob Vail has expressed an interest in the vacant at large position. Jacob joined the Zoom meeting shortly after this; see a summary of his comments in round table.

B. Spring Field Trip.

(1) The board is interested in an April field trip to check out north end parks.

(a) Campground at Whitehorse Park.

(b) Whitehorse Trail.

(c) Oso Slide Memorial.

(d) Kayak Point Golf Course.

(2) Sharon will set up the trip and provide details at the March meeting.

C. Cabot Fuqua shared the proposed fee schedule previously endorsed by the board with an amendment that would lower rental fees for use of volleyball courts at Willis Tucker Park. The change was discussed and a motion to support the new edit was unanimously approved.

7. Project Status Reports.

A. Construction Projects

(1) Whitehorse Park.

(2) Flowing Lake.

(3) Wenberg.

B. Design Projects

(1) Meadowdale – getting close.

(2) Sharon introduced Emily Griffith; newly hired park planner who is getting immediately involved. Emily introduced herself and provided an overview of projects she is taking over.

(a) Restart on Lord Hill Park.

(b) Whitehorse.

(c) Corcoron Memorial.

(3) Kayak Point day use area.

(4) Oso slide memorial.

(5) Carousel Ranch.

(6) Heybrook Ridge.

(7) Cavalero.

C. Preferred Plan Projects

(1) Shooting park.

(a) Presentation from Thomas Hartzell who took over on Kevin Teague's departure.

(b) DNR currently owns the 640 acre roughly square parcel that would be suitable for this park.

(c) Thomas shared an outline plan of the proposed park (Sky Valley Shooting Park) provided by developer, Bruce Dees.

(d) Components in the plan include an education center, shotgun/skeet area, rifle area, pistol area, archery area and rimfire area.

(e) May proceed with project as a master plan rather than a preferred plan project.

(f) Bob McCarty had several inquiries for Thomas on the shooting park.

(i) No current plan for cowboy action shooting.

(ii) No current plan for an indoor range.

(iii) Noise abatement and safety issues were major planning considerations and the concerns of neighbors such as the Lake Bronson group were kept in consideration.

(g) Thomas shared information on logging plans for the land as the project evolves.

(h) John Ewald asked about participation in the upcoming public meeting on February 24. Sharon will provide details to the board so they can participate if they want.

D. Long Range Planning.

- (1) Sharon spoke to the level of participation on the survey to obtain input on the mission of parks and tourism. More input is probably warranted.

- (a) There were about 180 responses from focus groups.

- (b) Sharon asked if those on the board who had opted to respond had opinions on the survey questions. Mary Rollins indicated that several questions just didn't make a lot of sense but overall the survey she took was fine.

- (2) Active Transportation Plan.

- (a) Nathan Howard from Snohomish County Public Works provided a presentation on the current 'Active Transportation Plan'.

- (b) The focus is on non-motorized transportation such as biking, walking, running, scooters, wheelchairs etc. Parks and the trail system are an integral component of the plan and Public Works has been working in tandem with Parks.

- (c) Vision with emphasis on safety, improved connectivity, more diversity, and better connectivity to future light rail access points.

- (d) Currently holding many stakeholder workshops.

- (e) Nathan explained the concept of 'Level of Traffic Stress (LTS)'.

- (f) Three major components of the plan regarding bike traffic.

- (i) County wide spinal network.

- (ii) Urban bicycle facilities.

- (iii) Rural bicycle facilities.

- (g) Jacob Vail had a question on accessibility for those with mobility challenges.

- (h) John Dewhirst asked about improved connections/links to current and future public transportation.

- (3) Sharon announced a new round for Conservation Futures Grants was upcoming earlier than usual.

- (a) Flowing Lake – LAZ site (site adjacent to Flowing Lake)

- (b) Bear Creek Headwaters Wetland – 10-acre wetlands that would serve to assure compliance with Conservation Futures standards for the Farmer Frog property.

- (c) Heybrook Ridge Property – 16 acres.

8. Park Director's Time.

- A. Tom shared that Wednesday (Feb 10) it was expected he would officially become director of 'Conservation and Natural Resources'. The new department will include Parks, Recreation and Tourism plus Surface Water Management, Energy and Sustainability, and Agriculture. The process involved removing him as director of Parks and reappointing him as a new division head.

- B. Tom's new duties coming about the same time as Russ Bosanko's early retirement mean that Sharon Swan and other senior staff with Parks are being heavily relied on to keep the department performing to high standards.

- C. Tom provided a recap of activities going on at Fairgrounds Park. Even though COVID-19 restrictions prevented the traditional fair in 2020, the property remains a valuable asset to citizens of Snohomish County.

9. Messages from the Board. Around the Table

- A. John Dewhirst

- B. David Divoky

- C. Tammy Dunn

- D. John Ewald
- E. Mike Farrell
- F. Bob McCarty
- G. Darrell Olson
- H. Robert Putnam
- I. Mary Rollins
- J. John Tam
- K. Shawn Tobin
- L. Jacob Vail

- (1) Jacob introduced himself and stated he is interested in the vacant at large position on our board.
- (2) He lives just outside of Mukilteo.
- (3) He is a power wheelchair user with an interest in access to parks and outdoor recreation for people with mobility challenges.

M. Steve Yandl

- (1) Asked about format preferences for meeting agenda and minutes. The consensus was that Steve and Sharon Swan can determine the best format for the documents.

10. Adjournment

A. Motion to adjourn was unanimously approved at 4:40pm after several items were tabled.

- (1) Future agenda items.
 - (a) PRVP
 - (b) Planning process overview.

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